

CLASSIFICATION (S-E-C-R-E-T)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT 25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT **Intended Increase in Work Norms at VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena**

DATE DISTR 20 May 1955

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF
INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW) 25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U. S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR DISSEMINATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

1. At the beginning of March 1955, various internal plant meetings were held at VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena, to discuss the possibility of increasing the labor norms so as to increase the productivity and general efficiency of the plant. Participants in these meetings were the various departmental production chiefs of Zeiss, the BPO (Betriebs-Partei-Organisation) leaders, various members of the Cadre Department and of the Department for Labor of the plant, as well as some of the technical experts.
2. The SED functionaries demanded that the workers should ask for a voluntary increase in their labor norms. These requests were received in an extremely cool manner by the non-SED persons attending the meetings and caused a certain amount of unrest among the labor forces after the general tenor of the demands had become known throughout the various shops of the plant.
3. So far as is known, no decision has been made regarding a general voluntary increase in labor or production norms throughout VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena, because of the negative attitude very openly displayed throughout the plant.
4. As one of the reasons why such an increase in labor norms was necessary, the BPO leaders stated that Zeiss Jena had had to borrow 2,500,000 DME from various Ministerial funds during the fiscal year of 1954 alone. They also stated that during the first two months of 1955 another 100,000 DME had to be made available to Zeiss Jena to enable the latter to meet wage and salary payments.¹

- 1 Comment: This latter figure may have been used purely for the sake of emphasizing the BPO and SED argument. On the other hand, it could be quite normal, as the optical business as such is subject to great seasonal fluctuations.

25X1

CLASSIFICATION										S-E-C-R-E-T									
STATE	#	x	NAVY	#	x	NSRB													
ARMY	#	x	AIR	#	x	FBI													

25X1

Page Denied